

BLOOMBERG NEWS

By Tina Seeley

May 20 (Bloomberg) -- Man Group Plc and the California Public Employees' Retirement System joined with more than 40 other investors managing \$2.3 trillion to call on the U.S. Senate to approve climate-change legislation.

Man Group, the world's largest listed hedge fund, and Calpers, the nation's biggest public pension fund, signed off on a letter sent today to Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada and Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky.

``In the current unpredictable national climate policy environment, it is difficult and risky for businesses to justify the large-scale, long-term capital investment needed to seize existing and emerging opportunities to transition to a clean, low-carbon economy," according to the letter.

The Senate is expected to begin debate next month on the climate bill sponsored by Senators Joseph Lieberman, a Connecticut Independent, and John Warner, a Virginia Republican. The legislation aims to reduce carbon-dioxide emissions by 66 percent from 2005 levels by 2050 through a so-called cap-and-trade system with mandatory limits and provisions for trading pollution credits.

``Caring about the environment and wanting to see the economy thrive are no longer mutually exclusive," John Chiang, California state controller and a board member of Calpers, said on a conference call today.

The letter also asks for the Securities and Exchange Commission to clarify how corporations must disclose material risks of climate change.

``We can no longer afford the inaction we've seen in Washington," Randall Edwards, Oregon state treasurer, said on the call. ``We must have a national plan to tackle the need to reduce carbon emissions."